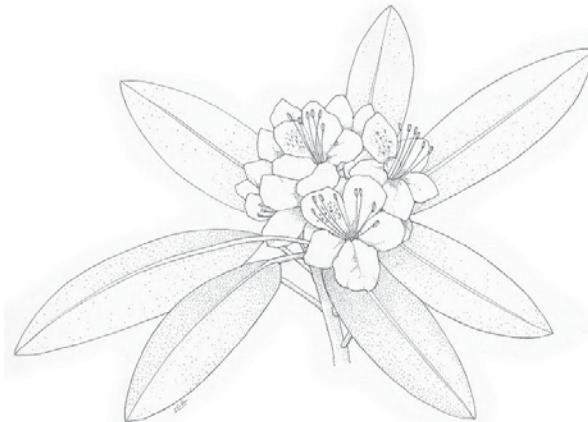


ABOUT THE NATIVE PLANTS FOR CONSERVATION, RESTORATION AND LANDSCAPING PROJECT

This project is a collaboration between the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Virginia Native Plant Society. VNPS chapters across the state helped to fund the 2011 update to this brochure.

The following partners have provided valuable assistance throughout the life of this project:

The Nature Conservancy – Virginia Chapter • Virginia Tech Department of Horticulture • Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services • Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Coastal Zone Management Program • Virginia Department of Forestry • Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries • Virginia Department of Transportation



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Natural Heritage Program
804-786-7951
www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/nativeplants.shtml



FOR A LIST OF NURSERIES THAT PROPAGATE NATIVE SPECIES, CONTACT:

Virginia Native Plant Society
400 Blandy Farm Lane, Unit 2
Boyce, VA 22620
540-837-1600 | vnpsofc@shentel.net
www.vnps.org

FOR A LIST OF NURSERIES IN A PARTICULAR REGION OF VIRGINIA, CONTACT:

The Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association
383 Coal Hollow Road
Christiansburg, VA 24073
540-382-0943 | vnla@verizon.net
To search for species in VNLA member catalogs, visit:
www.vnla.org/search.asp



ILLUSTRATIONS COURTESY OF THE FLORA OF VIRGINIA PROJECT.

Illustrators: Lara Gastinger, Roy Fuller and Michael Terry. To learn more, visit: www.floraofoviginia.org



NATIVE PLANTS
FOR CONSERVATION,
RESTORATION & LANDSCAPING

VIRGINIA PIEDMONT REGION

WHAT ARE NATIVES?

Native species evolved within specific regions and dispersed throughout their range without known human involvement. They form the primary component of the living landscape and provide food and shelter for native animal species. Native plants co-evolved with native animals over many thousands to millions of years and have formed complex and interdependent relationships. Our native fauna depend on native flora to provide food and cover. Many animals require specific plants for their survival.



BENEFITS OF NATIVE PLANTS

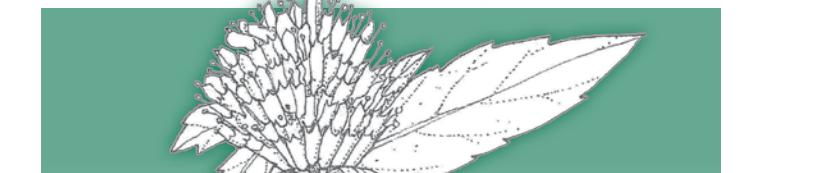
Using native species in landscaping reduces the expense of maintaining cultivated landscapes and minimizes the likelihood of introducing new invasive species. It may provide a few unexpected benefits as well.

Native plants often require less water, fertilizer and pesticide, thus adding fewer chemicals to the landscape and maintaining water quality in nearby rivers and streams. Fewer inputs mean time and money saved for the gardener.

Native plants increase the presence of desirable wildlife, such as birds and butterflies, and provide sanctuaries for these animals as they journey between summer and winter habitats. The natural habitat you create with native plants can become an outdoor classroom for children, or a place for you to find peace and quiet after a busy day.



Native plants evoke a strong sense of place and regional character. For example, live oak and magnolia trees are strongly associated with the Deep South. Redwood trees characterize the Pacific Northwest. Saguaro cacti call to mind the deserts of the Southwest.



BUYING AND GROWING NATIVE PLANTS

More gardeners today are discovering the benefits of native plants and requesting them at their local garden centers. Because of this increased demand, retailers are offering an ever-widening selection of vigorous, nursery-propagated natives.

Once you've found a good vendor for native plants, the next step is choosing appropriate plants for a project. One of the greatest benefits of designing with native plants is their adaptation to local conditions. However, it is important to select plants with growth requirements that best match conditions in the area to be planted.

If you're planning a project using native plant species, use the list in this brochure to learn which plants grow in your region of Virginia. Next, study the minimum light and moisture requirements for each species, noting that some plants grow



well under a variety of conditions. Many of the recommended species are well-suited to more than one of these categories.

For more information, refer to field guides and publications on local natural history for color, shape, height, bloom times and specific wildlife value of the plants that grow in your region. Visit a nearby park, natural area preserve, forest or wildlife management area to learn about common plant associations, spatial groupings and habitat conditions. For specific recommendations and advice about project design, consult a landscape or garden design specialist with experience in native plants.

WHAT ARE NON-NATIVE PLANTS?

Sometimes referred to as "alien," or "non-indigenous," non-native plants are species introduced, intentionally or accidentally, into a new region by humans. Over time, many plants and animals have expanded their ranges slowly and without human assistance. As people began cultivating plants, they brought beneficial and favored species along when they moved into new regions or traded with people in distant lands. Humans thus became a new pathway, enabling many species to move into new locations.

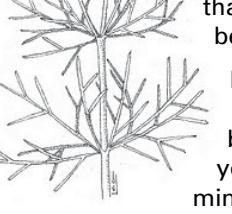
WHAT ARE INVASIVE PLANTS?

Invasive plants are introduced species that cause health, economic or ecological damage in their new range. More than 30,000 species of plants have been introduced to the United States since the time of Columbus. Most were introduced intentionally, and many provide great benefits to society as agricultural crops and landscape ornamentals. Some were introduced accidentally, for example, in ship ballast, in packing material and as seed contaminants. Of these introduced species, fewer than 3,000 have naturalized and become established in the United States outside cultivation. Of the 3,500 plant species in Virginia, more than 800 have been introduced since the founding of Jamestown. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation currently lists more than 100 of these species as invasive.

In the United States, invasive species cause an estimated \$120 billion in annual economic losses, including costs to manage their effects. Annual costs and damages arising from invasive plants alone are estimated at \$34 billion.

NATIVE PLANTS VS. INVASIVE PLANTS

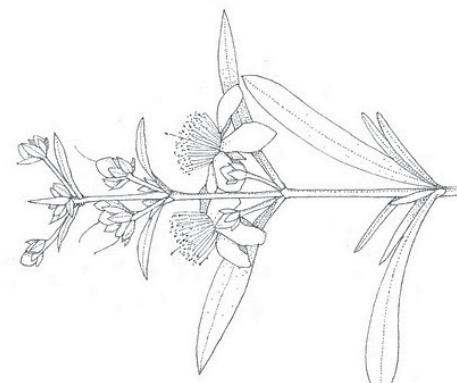
Invasive plants have competitive advantages that allow them to disrupt native plant communities and the wildlife dependent on them. For example, kudzu (*Pueraria montana*) grows very rapidly and overtakes forest canopy, thus shading other plant species from the sunlight necessary for their survival. A tall invasive wetland grass, common reed (*Phragmites australis* ssp. *australis*), invades and dominates marshes, reducing native plant diversity and sometimes eliminating virtually all other species.



Invasive species can marginalize or even cause the loss of native species. With their natural host plants gone, many insects disappear. And since insects are an essential part of the diet of many birds, the effects on the food web become far reaching. Habitats with a high occurrence of invasive plants become a kind of "green desert." Although green and healthy in appearance, far fewer native species of plants and animals are found in such radically altered places.

Virginia Piedmont Region

Rocky falls and rapids on the Potomac, Rappahannock and James rivers mark a transition from the softer sediments of the Coastal Plain to the resistant bedrock underlying the Piedmont. Moving west, the rolling hills of Virginia's Piedmont Plateau steadily climb from the fall line to the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, which form the western boundary of the Piedmont. The hills of the Piedmont become steeper to the west, where monadnocks — remnants of ancient mountains — rise above the farms and forests. The Piedmont is known for moderately fertile but highly eroded clay soils that formed from deeply weathered bedrock. Most of this land was converted to farmland during European settlement. Today, however, mixed pine-oak-hickory forests arising from abandoned farmlands are found throughout the region.



Recommended Uses

W = Wildlife
H = Horticulture & landscaping
C = Conservation & restoration
D = Domestic livestock forage

Minimum Light Requirements

S = Shade
P = Partial sun
F = Full sun

Moisture Requirements

L = Low moisture
M = Moderate moisture
H = High moisture

Some species are marked with the following footnote symbols:
+ May be aggressive in a garden setting
* Due to the rarity and sensitivity of habitat in Virginia, these species are recommended for horticultural use only. Planting these species in natural areas could be detrimental to the survival of native populations.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Uses W H C D S P F L M H	Light	Moisture
Herbs				
Achillea millefolium	common yarrow			
Ageratina altissima	white snakeroot			
Anemone tabernaemontana	wood anemone			
Anemone quinquefolia	rue anemone			
Anemone nemorosa	field pasqueflower			
Baptisia australis*	wild columbine			
Baptisia tinctoria	Jack-in-the-pulpit			
Bidens cernua+	goatsbeard			
Chamaecrista fasciculata+	wild ginger			
Chelone glabra	swamp milkweed			
Chrysogonium virginianum	common milkweed			
Cimicifuga mariana	butterfly weed			
Cimicifuga racemosa	blue wild-indigo			
Clintonia mariana	nodding beggar-ticks			
Conoclinium coeruleum	partridge pea			
Coreopsis lanceolata	white turtlehead			
Coreopsis tripteris	green and gold			
Chelone glabra	Maryland golden aster			
Chrysogonium virginianum	black cohosh			
Cimicifuga racemosa	Maryland butterfly pea			
Clintonia mariana	blue mistflower			
Conoclinium coeruleum	longstalk coreopsis			
Coreopsis tinctoria	golden tickseed			
Coreopsis verticillata	tall coreopsis			
Delphinium tricorne	dwarf larkspur			
Desmodium paniculatum	narrow-leaf tick trefoil			
Dicentra cucullaria	Dutchman's breeches			
Dicentra eximia	bleeding heart			
Doellingeria umbellata	flat-top white aster			
Equisetum hyemale	horsetail			
Eupatorium perfoliatum	Joe-pye weed			
Eurybia divaricata	common boneset			
Geranium maculatum	white wood aster			
Gilia trilobata	wild geranium			
Helenium autumnale	bowman's root			
Heuchera americana	sneezeweed			
Heuchera americana	narrow-leaf sunflower			
Heuchera americana	ten-petaled sunflower			
Heuchera americana	woodland sunflower			
Iris cristata	oxyeye sunflower			
Iris virginica	woodland sunflower			
Lespedeza capitata	oxeye sunflower			
Liatris pilosa var. pilosa	round-lobed hepatica			
Liatris squarrrosa	round-leaved iris			
Lilium canadense	arrow arum			
Lilium superbum	round-head bush clover			
Lobelia cardinalis	grass-leaf blazing star			
Helianthus decapetalus	plains blazing star			
Helianthus divaricatus	Canada lily			
Helianthus divaricatus	Turk's cap lily			
Helianthus divaricatus	cardinal flower			
Helianthus divaricatus	great blue lobelia			
Heuchera americana	lupine			
Heuchera americana	false Solomon's seal			
Hibiscus moscheutos	Virginia bluebells			
Iris cristata	monkeyflower			
Iris virginica	wild bergamot			
Packera aurea+	Horse-mint			
Peltandra virginica	American water lily			
Penstemon canescens	sundrops			
Penstemon digitalis	Eastern prickly-pear			
Penstemon laevigatus	golden ragwort			
Phlox paniculata	arrow arum			
Phlox subulata	gray beardtongue			
Physostegia virginiana+	foxglove beardtongue			
Polygonatum biflorum	smooth beardtongue			
Pontederia cordata	woodland phlox			
Polygonatum multiflorum	summer phlox			
Polygonatum reptans	obedient plant			
Polygonatum reptans	mayapple			
Polygonatum reptans	Jacob's ladder			
Polygonatum reptans	Solomon's seal			
Polygonatum reptans	pickerel weed			
Polygonatum reptans	woodland phlox			
Polygonatum reptans	summer phlox			
Polygonatum reptans	cup plant			
Polygonatum reptans	lizard's tail			
Polygonatum reptans	early saxifrage			
Polygonatum reptans	wild stonecrop			
Polygonatum reptans	fire pink			
Polygonatum reptans	narrow-leaved mountain mint			
Polygonatum reptans	Virginia meadow-beauty			
Polygonatum reptans	black-eyed Susan			
Rudbeckia fulgida	early coreflower			
Rudbeckia hirta	three-toed coreflower			
Rudbeckia hirta	broadleaf arrowhead			
Rudbeckia hirta	lyre-leaf sage			
Solidago rugosa+	bloodroot			
Solidago rugosa+	blue stem goldenrod			
Solidago rugosa+	pinewoods goldenrod			
Solidago rugosa+	downy goldenrod			
Solidago rugosa+	rough-stemmed goldenrod			
Solidago rugosa+	Eastern silver aster			
Solidago rugosa+	heart-leaved aster			
Solidago rugosa+	frost aster			
Solidago rugosa+	Thalictrum dioicum			
Solidago rugosa+	toadflax			
Solidago rugosa+	Trifolium pratense			
Solidago rugosa+	Verbena hastata			
Solidago rugosa+	Vernonia noveboracensis			
Solidago rugosa+	Viola cucullata			
Solidago rugosa+	Viola pedata			
Solidago rugosa+	Viola pubescens			
Solidago rugosa+	Yucca filamentosa			
Ferns & Fern Allies				
Adiantum pedatum	maidenhair fern			
Asplenium platyneuron	ebony spleenwort			
Botrychium asplenoides	Southern ladyfern			
Dennstaedtia punctilobula+	rattlesnake fern			
Dryopteris intermedia	hay-scented fern			
Dryopteris marginalis	evergreen woodfern			
Oncidium sensibilis+	marginal shield-fern			
Osmunda cinnamomea	sensitive fern			
Osmunda regalis	cinnamon fern			
Polystichum acrostichoides	royal fern			
Thelypteris palustris	Christmas fern			
Thelypteris palustris	marsh fern			
Grasses, Sedges & Rushes				
Agrostis perennans	autumn bentgrass			
Andropogon gerardii	big bluestem			
Andropogon glomeratus	bushy bluestem			
Arundinaria tecta	broomedge			
Carex crinita	switch cane			
Carex lurida	long hair sedge			
Carex pensylvanica	sallow sedge			
Carex plantaginea	Pennsylvanica sedge			
Carex stricta	plantain-leaved sedge			
Chasmanthium latifolium+	tussock sedge			
Danthonia sericea	river oats, sanglegrass			
Danthonia spicata	silky oatgrass			
	poverty oatgrass			

Scientific Name	Common Name	Uses W H C D S P F L M H	Light	Moisture
Dichanthelium clandestinum	deer-tongue grass			
Dichanthelium commutatum	variate panicgrass			
Dulichium arundinaceum	bottlebrush grass			
Elymus hystrix	Virginia wild rye			
Juncus canadensis	Canada rush			
Juncus effusus	soft rush			
Leersia oryzoides	rice cutgrass			
Panicum virgatum	switch grass			
Saccharum giganteum	giant plumegrass			
Schizachyrium scoparium	little bluestem			
Sorghastrum nutans	woollygrass bluishorn			
Spartanium americanum	Indian grass			
Tridens flavus	American bur-reed			
Tripsacum dactyloides	redtop			
Typha latifolia	broad-leaved cattail			
Vines				
Bignonia capreolata	crossvine			
Campsis radicans	trumpet creeper			
Celastrus scandens	climbing bittersweet			
Clematis virginiana	virgin's bower			
Lonicera sempervirens	trumpet honeysuckle			
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia creeper			
Passiflora incarnata	Purple passionflower			
Shrubs & Small Trees				
Ailanthus altissima	hazel alder			
Aronia arbutifolia	red chokeberry			
Aronia melanocarpa	black chokeberry			
Castanea pumila	Allegheny chinquapin			
Ceanothus americanus	New Jersey tea			
Cephaelanthus occidentalis	buttonbush			
Cornus amomum	silky dogwood			
Craatagus crus-galli	cockspur hawthorn			
Eubotrys racemosus	featherbush			
Euonymus americanus	wintergreen			
Gaultheria procumbens	black huckleberry			
Gaultheria shallon	witch hazel			
Hamelia patens	wintergreen			
Hamelia patens	Mountain laurel			
Hamamelis virginiana	spicebush			
Hydrangea arborescens	ninebark			
Ilex decidua	mountain laurel			
Ilex verticillata	spicebush			
Kalmia latifolia	ninebark			
Lindera benzoin	Catawba rhododendron			
Physocarpus opulifolius	great rhododendron			
Rhododendron catawbiense	rhododendron			
Rhododendron periclymenoides	pinxter flower			
Rhus aromatica	swamp azalea			
Rhus copallina	fragrant sumac			